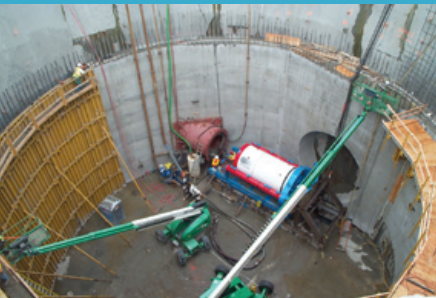


Dig it - Brightwater tunneling to begin!

Over the next four years, 13 miles of tunnels, each about 16 feet in diameter, will be excavated from three access points to complete the Brightwater system and link the treatment plant with the marine outfall.

This summer will mark an exciting milestone for the Brightwater Project as tunneling starts from the North Creek site in Bothell.



Deep shaft construction to prepare for Brightwater tunneling has been underway since May 2006. The shafts, ranging in depths from 20 to 200 feet, provide launching and receiving sites for tunneling boring machines (TBMs), workers and soil removal.

Brightwater construction sites update

King County is building a new wastewater treatment system called Brightwater to serve the growing needs of north King County and south Snohomish County.

Brightwater construction will take place at the treatment plant site, and four areas called portals to build the conveyance tunnels in Bothell, Shoreline, Kenmore, and at Point Wells to carry wastewater to and from the plant.

Once completed, the construction areas will be restored and improved with the mitigation investments proposed at each location.

The conveyance pipelines will be built almost entirely underground in tunnels 40 to 400 feet below the surface. Portals are the access shafts where workers, machines, soil and equipment will enter and exit the tunnels during construction. Tunnel boring machines (TBMs) will be used to build these tunnels underground.

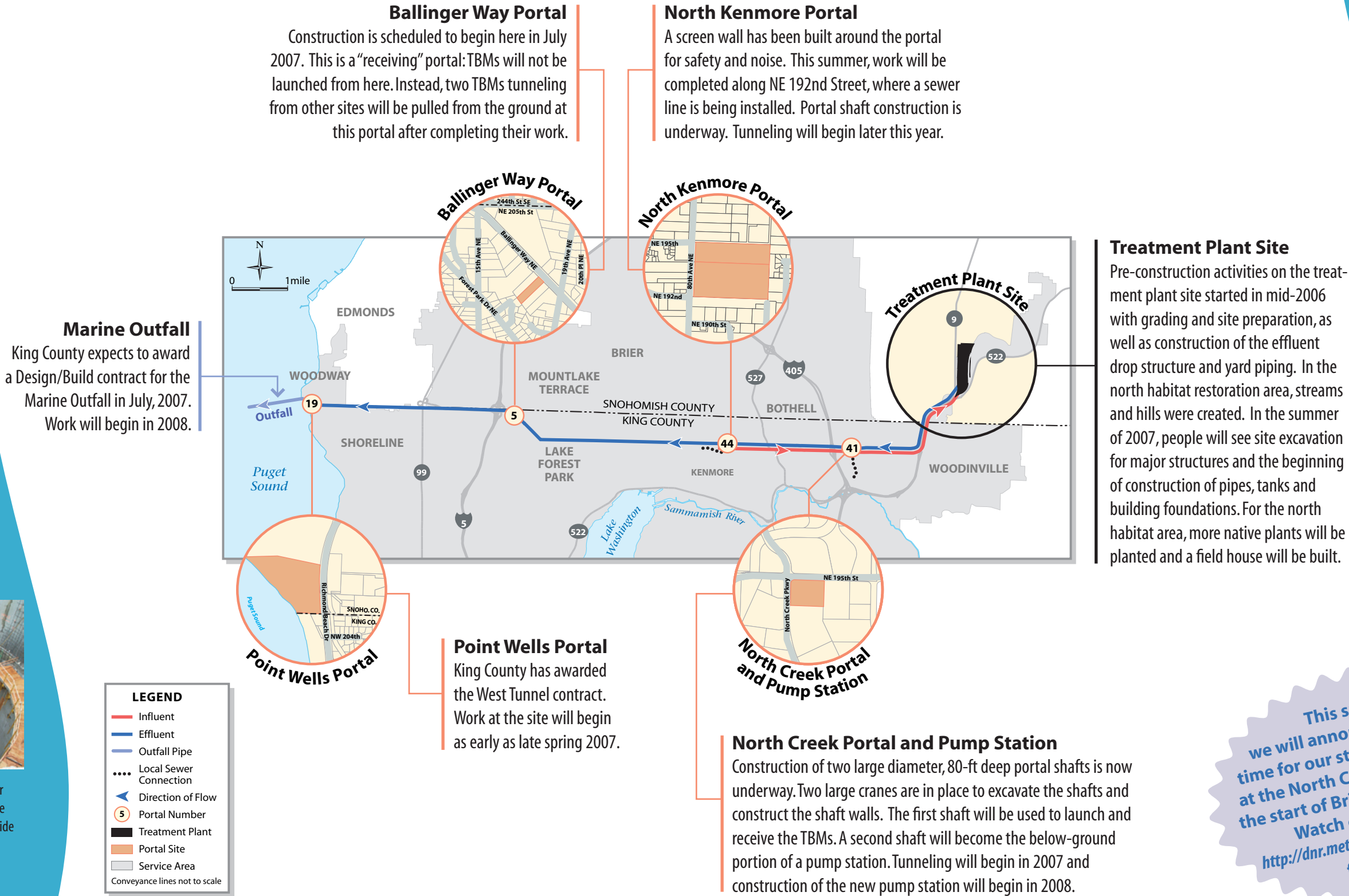
For more information, please visit: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/WTB/brightwater/construction/index.htm>



TBMs for the Brightwater project are manufactured in Canada and Europe. Shown here is a Lovat TBM from Toronto, Canada, that was used to build wastewater storage tunnels recently under Seattle's Queen Anne and Beacon hills.



Sections of the TBMs are lowered into the shafts for assembly, testing and launching.



This summer, we will announce a date and time for our start-up celebration at the North Creek Portal to mark the start of Brightwater tunneling. Watch our Web site at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/brightwater> for details.